

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Appreciation is expressed to Examiner Blankenship for the indicated allowability of Claims 1-7 pending correction of minor informalities. Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended without narrowing the claims scope to adopt the helpful suggestions provided by the Examiner.

It is believed that this application is in condition and such action is earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: June 28, 2004

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